

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4783

1. Name

Historic 6 - 32 South Castle Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 6 - 32 South Castle Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21231 county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	X occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
X building(s)	X private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	X private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	X yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number
city, town state & zip code telephone

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of fourteen two-story, two-bay wide early Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and simple, scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built c. 1875. Only one of the houses retain its original brick facade, which would have been painted; the rest of the houses are covered with formstone.

The houses are two stories in height, only 11'6" and 12' wide and occupy lots 100' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in running bond and were originally painted. Because early house lots in Baltimore were laid out back to back, without rear service alleys, the only entrance to the backyard is through the arched sallyports between each pair of houses. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house.

The shed roofs are capped by a continuous wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by simple scroll-sawn modillions set above a plain frieze area. Only one of these cornices survive—at 12 S. Castle. The rest have been covered with formstone or sheet metal. The tall, narrow window and door openings have splayed brick lintels and wood sills. Several of the original 2/2 sash survive, but most openings are filled with 1/1 replacement sash. Doorways originally had a single-light transom but many of these have been covered over with sheet metal and there are a wide variety of replacement door types. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash. Each house is reached by three concrete or brick steps.

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8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

Specific dates c. 1875

Builder/Architect

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The group of houses on the east side of the unit block of S. Castle St. is significant as representing a form of working class housing built in the 1870s, at a time when Fells Point and Canton were growing as fledgling industrial areas, with small manufacturing concerns relating to the canning industry and many different oyster and fruit packing houses. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$700 - \$900. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

The majority of the early inhabitants of this block were German-Americans, who received mortgages from the large variety of community based and ethnically-sponsored building and loan associations.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:

DHCP/DHCD

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

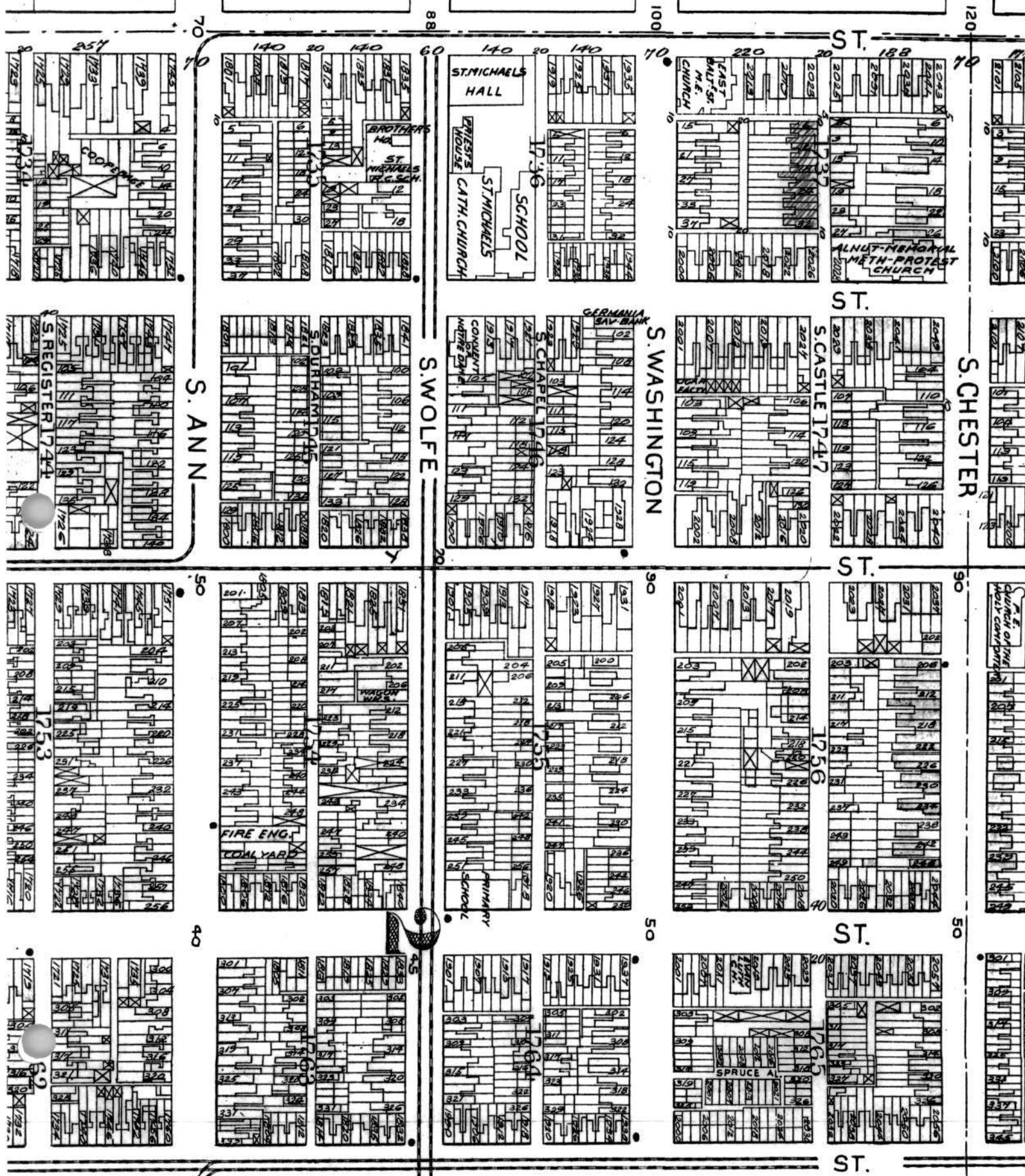
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

6-32 S Castle St
BALTO, MD

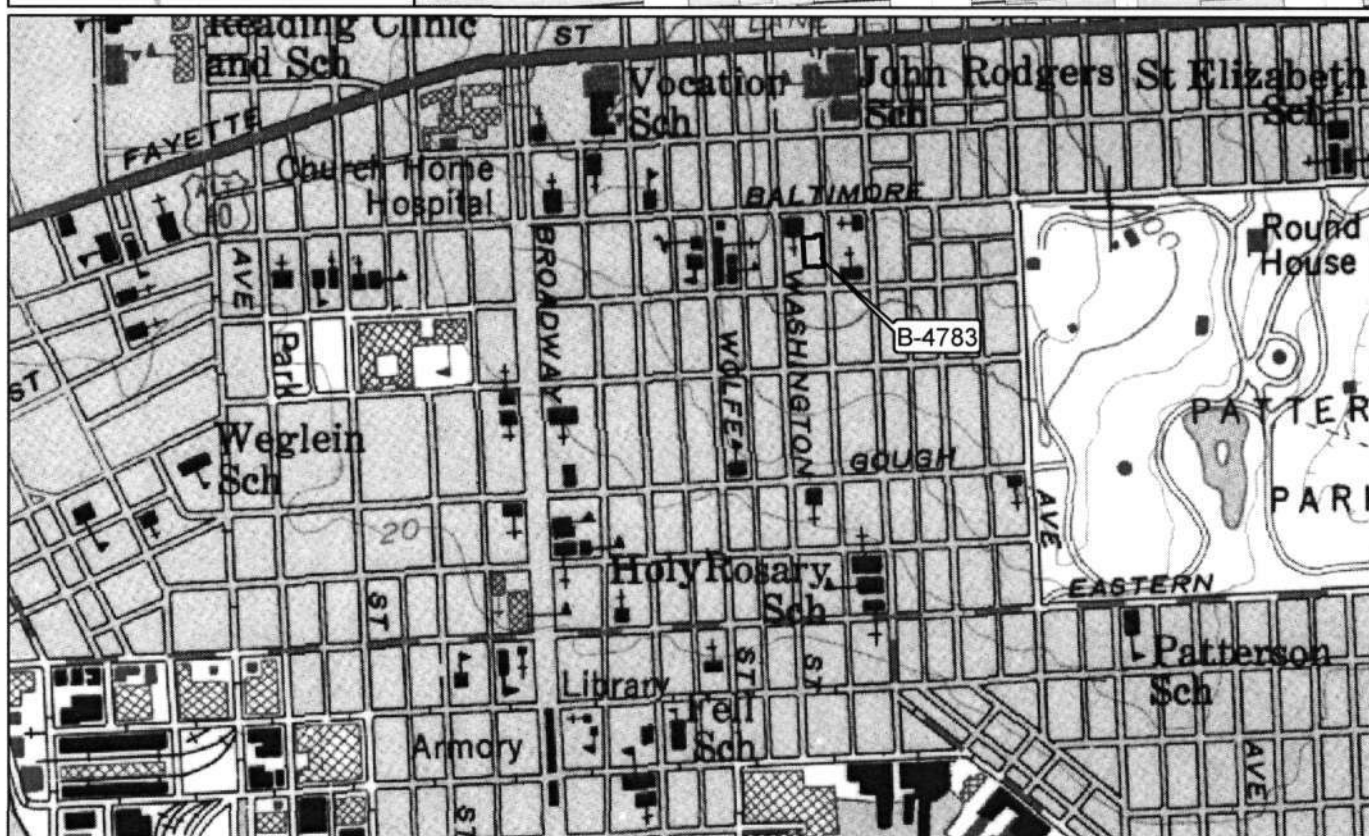
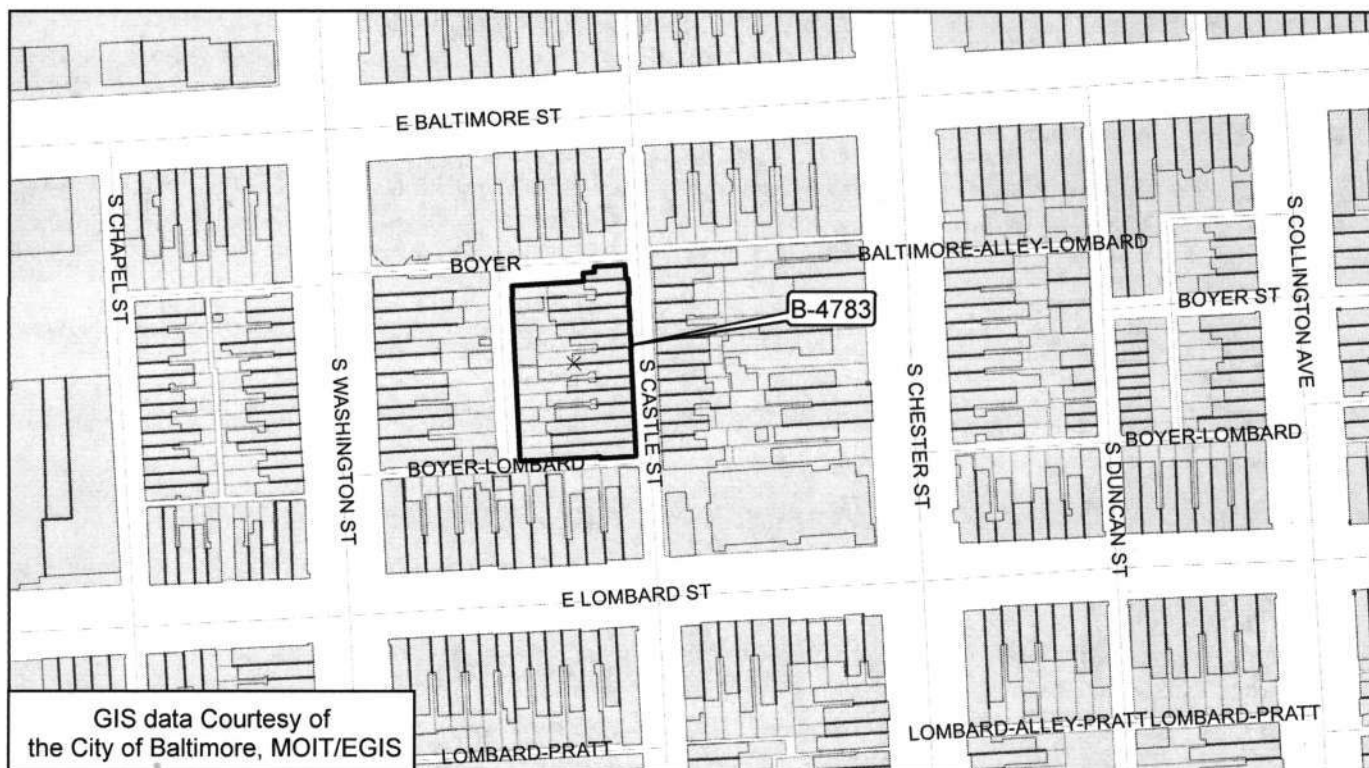
1906 City Atlas

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B-4783
 6-32 S. Castle Street
 Block 1737, Lots 060-072
 Baltimore City
 Baltimore East Quad.





6-32 S Castle

FP8

B-4783

6-32 S. Castle St.

1/4 AUTO. MB

C. California

6/97

1/2



12 S Castle

FP8

B-4783

6-32 S. Castle St.

ISAUTO, 110

C. Reliance

6/27

2/2